



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Winter 2020 (REVISED DUE TO COVID-19)

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Socio-legal Issues in Contemporary Liberal Societies			
Course Number	LWSO 415 L01		
Pre/Co-Requisites	LWSO 413, 60 units and admission to the LWSO program Credit for Law & Society 415 and 412 will not be allowed.		
Instructor Name	Dr Kirsten Kramar	Email	kirsten.kramar@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	Feel free to contact the instructor by email. Please put your course number – LWSO 415 – in the subject line. Emails will be answered within one to 2 business days. I generally do not answer emails over the weekend, but will check during busy assignment submission times. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline or the content section in the course website on D2L first.		
Office Location	SS 1004	Office Hours	TR 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Class Dates	Tuesday/Thursday		
Class Times	2:00 – 3:15 p.m.		
Class Location	ENA 103		

Course Description

An examination of the ways in which fundamental premises of legal liberalism, such as fairness, equality, and individual liberty, intersect with each other and with other key social values and premises. May include privacy, the nature of the rights attached to property, the different understandings of democracy operating in different countries, and the extent to which the state should support religion.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

The purpose of this course is to engage with contemporary socio-legal issues. We will be examining the current debates in liberalism around the following topics: the administrative state, managerialism, theories of multiculturalism, representation, diversity & inclusion, freedom of expression, discrimination and sexual harassment. By the completion of the course you will be able to identify the breadth and depth of liberal legal debates on these issues through an examination of key legal cases and/or tribunal decisions on these issues. You should be able to understand some of these issues in comparative perspective in relation to US socio-legal issues and decisions.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

Kipnis, L. (2017). *Unwanted Advances*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers Inc. You can purchase the e-book, hardcover or softcover versions here (or find it on your preferred book sales site). Links to Amazon are also the Harper Collins webpage below <https://www.harpercollins.com/9780062657886/unwanted-advances>

All other readings and materials are posted in course content on the D2L course website and may be updated from time to time to account for current events that are relevant to our course discussions.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Please see the D2L course website for schedule of lectures and readings.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights *REVISED*

Midterm Test

Date: Tuesday February 25, 2020

Value: 40% (Reweighted from 30%)

Length: 75 minutes

Description: Short, written answers to test question distributed the week prior to Reading Week. A one-page note sheet is allowed to assist in writing your answer during the exam.

Written Assignment – Critical Book Review

Date: March 31, 2020

Value: 60% (Reweighted from 40%)

Description: Extended critical analysis of the various books listed in D2L (and including Laura Kipnis' book *Unwanted Advances*, 2017). Students are encouraged to use course materials, discussions, and readings to locate the book's argument in the broader literature and debates in socio-legal studies around the effectiveness of administrative tribunals for solving complex societal issues.

Length: 2000 words (excluding cover page and works cited page)

Referencing format: APA or Chicago (author-date)

Information on how to approach reading and writing to produce an extended critical book review is posted in D2L and can also be found here:

<http://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/types-of-writing/book-review/> and here:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/files/ssc/critique-or-reviews-of-research-articles-academic-genre.pdf>

Final Exam Information

No Final Exam

For students who were counting on the final exam to improve their grade you may complete a Final Bonus Question (10%)

Final bonus take-home test (same format at the midterm test)

Value: 10% bonus marks

Due: Monday, April 27, 2020

Length: 1000 words

Description: Short, written answer to test question distributed on April 15, 2020. Students can decide whether or not to write the bonus test question once they receive their grade from the critical book review. There will be 4 or 5 questions from which you will choose ONE question to answer. The questions will reflect the materials covered in each of the books you are now reading for the critical book review.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Grade Reappraisal

Up to one week after an exam or assignment is returned, a student may seek a reappraisal of the grade from the instructor. To do so, the student must submit a written request briefly explaining the grounds for the reappraisal. Students are always welcome to discuss their performance on term work at any time during my office hours.

Technology Use

This is an upper level course during which students are welcome to use their laptops for notetaking. As always, you are encouraged to take handwritten notes during lectures because the research confirms that hand written notes contribute to better learning outcomes for students. Please be considerate of others and switch off cell phones when you enter the classroom. Students who have parental or other family responsibilities are welcome to accept incoming emergency calls and to leave the classroom for such purposes.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Faculty Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Absences and Deferrals

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another

assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at:

https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.